

MEMO

Re: Metal industry of the Ukrainian SSR, and non-fulfilment of the production plan by the industry in the 3rd Quarter of 1962.

According to information and data supplied by the Ukrainian Soviet Press, the metal industry of the Ukrainian SSR failed to fulfil the production plan in steel and rolled metals for the 3rd Quarter of 1962, and in pig iron for September, 1962. Thus, e.g., in the production of

STEEL the production plan was not-fulfilled by the following plants which belong among the largest in the USSR:

Illich Plant	Zhdanov, Oblast of Donetsk
Petrovsky Plant	Dnepropetrovsk
Liebknecht Plant	Dnepropetrovsk
Lenin Plant	Dnepropetrovsk
Makievka Plant	Makievka, Oblast of Donetsk

PIG IRON the production plan for pig iron was non-fulfilled by the failure of following plants to fulfil the plan:

Illich Plant	Zhdanov, Oblast of Donetsk
Dzerzhinsky Plant	Dneprodzerzhinsk, Oblast of Dnepropetrovsk
Komunarsky Plant	Komunarsk, Oblast of Lugansk
Makievka Plant	Makievka, Oblast of Donetsk

For the first half-year of 1962, the increase in the production as well as over-fulfilment of plans, were officially announced as follows:

Steel	108 %
Pig iron	107 %
Rolled	
Metal	107%

At the same time, the largest and technically best equipped plants did not fulfil the plan.

In the 3rd Quarter of 1962, the situation developed as follows:

July 1-15	Illich Plant
	Petrovsky Plant
	Azovstal Plant (Zhdanov, Oblast of Donetsk)
	failed to fulfil the production plan;
	Komunarsky Plant
	fulfilled the production plan.

July 1-30	Illich Plant
	Dzerzhinsky Plant
	Petrovsky Plant
	failed to fulfil the production plan;
	Komunarsky Plant
	fulfilled the production plan.

August 1-15	Illich Plant
	Dzerzhinsky Plant
	Petrovsky Plant
	Komunarsky Plant
	failed to fulfil the production plan.

The plants of Donetsk sovnarkhoz fulfilled the production plan in rolled metal only to extent of 75 %.

August 1-25	Petrovsky Plant
	Illich Plant
	Dzerzhinsky Plant

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Komunarsky Plant
Azovstal

failed to fulfil the production plan.

The plants of Donetsk sovnarkhoz fulfilled the production plan in rolled metals only to the extent of 80%.

August 1-30

No data were announced.

Sept. 1-10

Illich Plant
Petrovsky Plant
Azovstal

failed to fulfil the production plan.

The production of rolled metal in the plants of the Donetsk sovnarkhoz dropped to 69.5%

Sept. 1-20

Illich Plant
Petrovsky Plant
Azovstal

failed to fulfil the production plan.

The plants of Donetsk sovnarkhoz fulfilled the production plan in rolled metals to the extent of 75.5%

Sept. 1-30

Illich Plant did not fulfil the production plan.

The production of rolled metals by the plants of the Donetsk sovnarkhoz increased to 88.6%

Such Plants as Illich Plant, Makievka Plant, Dzerzhinsky Plant, Komunarsky Plant, etc. are among the oldest, the largest and technically best equipped plants in the Ukrainian SSR. All they were reconstructed and modernized after the Second World War.

Failure to announce data for the last days of August, indicate at the probability of incidents at that time which were able to entirely desorganize the production process. It is evidenced by the fact that the production of rolled metals in the Oblast of Donetsk dropped to 69.5% in the first days of September, and even in August 1-25 it had been 80 per cent.

At the Illich Plant, the open hearth furnaces on hot repairs stood idle more than 1/4 of the working time. To save the situation and to carry out reconstruction and repairs, some 2,500 new workers were mobilized and, in October 1962, some 300 more were added.

On August 9-11, the Plenary Session of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Ukraine met at which the Prime-Minister, Ukrainian SSR, Shcherbitsky, criticized the Donetsk sovnarkhoz for the situation at the Illich Plant. Director of the Illich Plant, I. I. Shalamov accepted the criticism as just, but added that there was no fault in the Plant itself, but in delays in supply of needed equipment. In September 1962, a special conference of Donetsk, Lugansk, Zaporozhe and Dnepropetrovsk sovnarkhozes together with the Ukrainian Council of National Economy was convoked to discuss the reasons for the failure to fulfil the production plans by respective plants.

On October 14, 1962, an appeal by four workers (communists, heroes of socialist labor) appeared in Radians'ka Ukraina. The workers represented the following plants: Petrovsky Plant, Dzerzhinsky Plant, Azovstal Plant, and Komunarsky Plant. The workers asked for an immediate aid to metal industry in following terms:

"...Lack of exactidness in proper care of open hearth furnaces. It became worse in the last time, as it is witnessed by frequent break-downs. For instance, at the Makievka Plant, in September 1962, four open hearth furnaces stood idle as a result. It is a shame, but, nevertheless, it is a fact: standing idle by open hearth furnaces in this year was higher than in 1961.

The waste causes large losses of metal in steel foundries. The waste was particularly high in the plants of the Dnepropetrovsk sovnarkhoz and it incessantly increases in the last years. So, e.g., at the Dzerzhinsky Plant, it increased since 1958 twice, and in the converter shop of the Krivoi Rog Plant 1.8 times, and it increased at the Petrovsky Plant, too.

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Non-fulfilment of the production plans for the output of pig iron, steel, and rolled metals by the metal industry with the exception of Illich Plant where also other reasons had place, were caused by the reasons of inside-factory character (*italics -mine*). "...

This attests to the fact that not only technical reasons (lack of raw materials, equipment), but also human factor - the worker was responsible for the break-downs in the plants. It is interesting to note that among the signatures of writers of the appeal, there is no signature of the representative of Illich Plant.

The Ukrainian Council for National Economy answered the appeal of the workers by a statement which was published in Radians'ka Ukraina of November 11, 1962. Therein we read:

"Ukrainian Council for National Economy having acquainted itself with the appeal...states that the facts adduced therein, are true. For nine months of the current year, under conditions of general over-fulfilment of the production plans for the output of pig iron, some plants, as, e.g., Dzerzhinsky Plant, Makievka Plant, Illich Plant, and Komunarsky Plant were not fulfilling their tasks in the production of pig iron... Large losses in production of the foundries in the Republic ...were caused by the increase in standing idle of open hearth furnaces in cold and hot processes as a result of break-downs and stoppages, infringement of schedules as in deterioration in maintenance. In September, the sovnarkhozes of Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Lugansk and Zaporozhe met with the Ukrainian Council for National Economy and Pivdendomnaremont (Southern Blast Furnaces Maintenance) Trust to analyze the reasons which caused the increased break-downs ~~and to carry out the repairs~~ of furnaces and to project measures to improve the situation and to carry out the repairs. The schedule of repairs were approved and already realized on the whole in October."

A similar statement was issued by the Ministry of Construction, Ukrainian SSR, with the promises of construction of new shops as well as of repair shops, and of allotting additional personnel to them.

The catastrophic non-fulfilment of production plans at the largest plants of metal industry in Ukraine, took place at the time of announcement of the increase in prices of meat and milk. The announcement caused the deficit of meat and milk in the market and the large disorder in their supply. This in turn caused open protests by the population in the various areas of the USSR.

It is a basis for suggesting that workers' protest at the large plants of the metal industry in Southern Ukraine, manifested itself in their resistance with breaking down of plans as a result.